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Sixty-third session
Agenda item 49

# Sustainable development

## Report of the Second Committee*

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Awsan **Al-Aud** (Yemen)

## I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2008, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled:

"Sustainable development:

"(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

"(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

"(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

"(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

"(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/63/414 and Add.1-7.

08-63730 (E) 151208

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 17th to 20th meetings, on 27 and 28 October 2008. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/63/SR.17-20). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 6 to 8 October (see A/C.2/63/SR.2-6). Action was taken on the item at the 19th and 27th to 30th meetings, on 28 October and 18, 20, 25 and 26 November (see A/C.2/63/SR.19 and 27-30). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

**Item 49**
**Sustainable development**

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (A/63/76-E/2008/54)

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores (A/63/225)

Letter dated 14 March 2008 from the representative of the Sudan to the President of the General Assembly (A/63/66)

Letter dated 3 October 2008 from the representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the Secretary-General (A/63/464)

Letter dated 30 October 2008 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/6)

**Item 49 (a)**
**Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/63/304)

Letter dated 6 October 2008 from the representative of Namibia to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/3)

**Item 49 (b)**
**Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/63/296)

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/63/297)

**Item 49 (c)**
**International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/63/351)

Letter dated 3 September 2008 from the representative of Tajikistan to the Secretary-General (A/63/347)

**Item 49 (d)**
**Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind**

Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/63/294)

Letter dated 6 October 2008 from the representative of Namibia to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/3)

**Item 49 (e)**
**Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/63/294)

Letter dated 6 October 2008 from the representative of Namibia to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/3)

**Item 49 (f)**
**Convention on Biological Diversity**

Note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions (A/63/294)

Letter dated 6 October 2008 from the representative of Namibia to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/3)

**Item 49 (g)**
**Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session**

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session[1]

4. At the 17th meeting, on 27 October, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-items (a) and (b)); the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (under sub-item (c)); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (under sub-item (d)); the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (under sub-item (f)); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item (e)); the Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/63/25).

Regional Office for West Asia (under item 49); and the Chief of the United Nations Environment Programme New York Liaison Office (under sub-item (g)) (see A/C.2/63/SR.17).

# II. Consideration of proposals

## A. Draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.2/Rev.1

5. At the 19th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Ethiopia introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Chemistry" (A/C.2/63/L.2/Rev.1). Subsequently, Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 28th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Ethiopia (see A/C.2/63/SR.28).

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.2/Rev.1 (see para. 20, draft resolution I).

## B. Draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.3/Rev.1

9. At the 19th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Turkmenistan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Reliable and stable transit of energy and its role in ensuring sustainable development and international cooperation" (A/C.2/63/L.3/Rev.1). Subsequently, Canada, Chile, Egypt, Jordan, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic[2] joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At its 29th meeting, on 25 November, the Committee was advised that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

11. At the same meeting, the representative of Turkmenistan orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the last preambular paragraph, which read:

> "*Welcoming* initiatives that aim to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals".

[2] Subsequently, the Syrian Arab Republic withdrew as a sponsor of the draft resolution.

12. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.3/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 20, draft resolution II).

## C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.24 and Rev.1

13. At the 27th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/63/L.24), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006 and 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference, in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

"*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

"*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

"*Noting again with great concern* the environmental catastrophe caused by the deliberate destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the el Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, a civilian utility serving the general public, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

"*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;

"2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the deliberate destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese el Jiyeh electric power plant, a civilian utility serving the general public, for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

"3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious

implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

"4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic for the costs of cleaning up and repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, and notes with deep concern the non-compliance of the Government of Israel with paragraph 4 of resolution 62/188;

"5. *Reaffirms* the necessity to adhere to the full and complete implementation of resolutions 61/194 and 62/188 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;

"6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

"7. *Decides* to establish a voluntary trust fund for Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration in order to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of the environmental catastrophe resulting from the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks at the el Jiyeh electric power plant, and requests the Secretary-General to implement this decision before the end of the sixty-third session;

"8. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the voluntary trust fund for Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration has sufficient and adequate resources;

"9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled 'Sustainable development'."

14. At its 30th meeting, on 26 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Oil slick on Lebanese shores" (A/C.2/63/L.24/Rev.1).

15. At the same meeting, the Committee was advised that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

16. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Lebanon and Antigua and Barbuda orally corrected the revised draft resolution.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.24/Rev.1, as orally corrected, by a recorded vote of 154 to 5, with 3 abstentions (see para. 20, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

*In favour*:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against*:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Palau, United States of America.

*Abstaining*:

Cameroon, Chad, Colombia.

18. After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Israel (see A/C.2/63/SR.30).

19. The representative of Lebanon made a statement (see A/C.2/63/SR.30).

# III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

20. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

## Draft resolution I
## International Year of Chemistry

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

*Recognizing* that humankind's understanding of the material nature of our world is grounded, in particular, in our knowledge of chemistry,

*Stressing* that education in and about chemistry is critical in addressing challenges such as global climate change, in providing sustainable sources of clean water, food and energy and in maintaining a wholesome environment for the well-being of all people,

*Considering* that the science and application of chemistry produces medicines, fuels, metals and virtually all other manufactured products,

*Being aware* that the year 2011 provides the opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women to science on the one-hundredth anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Maria Sklodowska-Curie,

*Being aware also* that the year 2011 provides the opportunity to highlight the need for international scientific collaboration on the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the International Association of Chemical Societies,

*Noting* the adoption by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its one hundred and seventy-ninth session of a proposal for the proclamation by the United Nations of 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry, and noting also the unanimous resolution of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, at its 2007 Council meeting, to have 2011 proclaimed the International Year of Chemistry,

*Recognizing* the leading role of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry in coordinating and promoting chemistry activities at the national and regional levels around the world,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 2011 the International Year of Chemistry;

2. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency and focal point for the Year and invites it to organize activities to be realized during the Year, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and its associated organizations and federations across the world, and, in this regard, notes that the activities of the Year will be funded from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels aimed at increasing awareness among the public of the importance of chemistry and promoting widespread access to new knowledge and to chemistry activities.

## Draft resolution II
## Reliable and stable transit of energy and its role in ensuring sustainable development and international cooperation

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the growing role of the transit of energy in global processes,

*Recognizing* the importance of Central Asia and all other transportation and communication hubs and their vital role in the production of energy and its transportation to international markets,

*Noting* that stable, efficient and reliable energy transportation, as a key factor of sustainable development, is in the interest of the entire international community,

*Reiterating* the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[1] and of Agenda 21,[2] and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[3] concerning energy for sustainable development,

1. *Welcomes* international cooperation in developing transportation systems and pipelines;

2. *Recognizes* the need for extensive international cooperation in determining ways of ensuring the reliable transportation of energy to international markets through pipelines and other transportation systems;

3. *Welcomes* the initiative of Turkmenistan to convene in 2009 a high-level international conference to discuss the issue of ensuring the reliable and stable transportation of energy to international markets.

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

## Draft resolution III
## Oil slick on Lebanese shores

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006 and 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[1] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[3]

*Noting again with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/188 of 19 December 2007 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[4]

2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] A/63/225.

4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

6. *Decides* to establish an Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration voluntary trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant, and requests the Secretary-General to implement this decision before the end of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

7. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration voluntary trust fund has the sufficient and adequate resources;

8. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

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# Sustainable development

## Report of the Second Committee

### Corrigendum

**Chapter II, section B, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.3/Rev.1**

The second sentence of paragraph 9 *should read*:

Subsequently, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic,[2] the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

[2] Subsequently, the Syrian Arab Republic withdrew as a sponsor of the draft resolution.

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# Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

## Report of the Second Committee*

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Awsan Al-Aud (Yemen)

## I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 49 (see A/63/414, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 27th and 31st meetings, on 18 November and 11 December 2008. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/63/SR.27 and 31).

## II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.27 and A/C.2/63/L.62

2. At the 27th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/63/L.27), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/63/414 and Add.1-7.

20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005, 61/195 of 20 December 2006 and 62/189 of 19 December 2007,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

"*Reiterating* that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

"*Noting* that challenges in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development are further exacerbated by the current global crises,

"*Deeply concerned* that although some progress has been achieved since the landmark Conference of 1972, the Earth Summit in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, there is a persistent implementation gap, and many commitments by the international community have not been fully met,

"*Bearing in mind* the need for a World Summit to renew political commitments at the highest level and for an overall review of the implementation of Agenda 21 and of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

"*Welcoming* the offer by the Government of Brazil to host a world summit on this matter in 2012,

"*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development

strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"*Recalling* that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

"*Recalling also* that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

"*Recognizing* the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification, and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the seventeenth session of the Commission, which will be a policy session,

"*Recalling* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

"*Recalling also* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

"*Recognizing* the importance of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting to discuss policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that the Commission at its sixteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of

issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation');

"3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

"4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"5. *Recognizes* the need for a World Summit in 2012 for the overall review and appraisal of the progress achieved in, and to identify further measures for enhancing, the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

"6. *Decides* that the review should focus on the identification of the accomplishments and areas where, further efforts are needed to implement Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as on action-oriented decisions on new challenges and opportunities in order to secure renewed political commitment and support for sustainable development while ensuring consistency consistent with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

"7. *Accepts* the offer of the Government of Brazil to host the conference in 2012;

"8. *Decides* that the preparatory process and the modalities of negotiations will be decided by a specific resolution to be presented to the General Assembly by no later than its sixty-fourth session, and that this preparatory process should take adequately into account the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, particularly as established in its multi-year work programme, with a view to avoiding duplication of work;

"9. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United

Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

"10. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

"11. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the area of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, as well as finance, in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

"12. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

"13. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and in this regard, to contribute to the Commission's trust fund;

"14. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

"15. *Calls upon* donor Governments and international financial institutions to target funding support to developing countries in support of their efforts to overcome barriers and constraints identified during the review year in the thematic cluster of issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;

"16. *Reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

"17. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"18. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

"19. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, through the Commission's trust fund;

"20. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting at its seventeenth session;

"21. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

"22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its seventeenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;

"23. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the seventeenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

"24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development', and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 31st meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/63/L.62), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Andrei Metelitsa (Belarus), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.27.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.62 had no programme budget implications (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

5. Also at the 31st meeting, after a statement made by the Vice-Chairman, the representative of Kenya orally corrected the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.62, as orally corrected (see para. 9).

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Brazil; after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, the United States of America and Australia (see A/C.2/63/SR.31).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.62, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

# III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

## Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 61/195 of 20 December 2006 and 62/189 of 19 December 2007, and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

*Reaffirming* the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[8]

*Reiterating* that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

*Noting* that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in the context of the current global crises,

*Taking note* of the proposal to convene a world summit on sustainable development in 2012,

*Bearing in mind* the need for further consultations on this matter, in the light of the variety of views expressed by Member States, recognizing that the preparatory process, content, modalities and timing for such a possible high-level event on sustainable development would need to be determined taking into account the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, particularly as established in its multi-year programme of work, with a view to avoiding duplication of work,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Commission on Sustainable Development multi-year programme of work designed to contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels,

*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

*Recalling* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9]

*Recalling* that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for

[9] See resolution 55/2.

consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

*Recalling also* that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

*Recognizing* the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification, and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the seventeenth session of the Commission, which will be a policy session,

*Recalling* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session,[10] endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, that the Commission, at its policy sessions, to be held in April/May of the second year of the cycle of the Commission's work programme, would take policy decisions on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in the selected thematic cluster of issues, taking account of the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, the reports of the Secretary-General and other relevant inputs,

*Recalling also* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session[11] that the discussions of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting would be based on the outcome of the review session and reports of the Secretary-General, as well as other relevant inputs, and that, on the basis of those discussions, the Chair would prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration at the policy session,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting in respect of discussing policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation identified during the review year,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Commission at its sixteenth session undertook an in-depth evaluation of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, focusing on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, and taking into account the interlinkages as well as addressing the cross-cutting issues, and identified best practices, constraints and obstacles in the process of implementation,[12]

*Noting with satisfaction also* the review of the implementation of the Commission's decisions on water held by the Commission at its sixteenth session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[5]

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[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (h).

[11] Ibid., para. 2 (g).

[12] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 9* (E/2008/29), chap. II.

[13] A/63/304.

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Invites* Member States to express their views on the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development and requests the Secretary-General, in his report on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to include the views expressed, and decides to consider this matter further at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

6. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the area of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, as well as finance, in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting;

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[14]

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[2] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Invites* donor Governments and international financial institutions to support developing countries' efforts to overcome barriers and constraints identified

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[14] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).

during the review year in the thematic cluster of issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;

13. *Reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

14. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the seventeenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

16. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

17. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

18. *Reiterates the invitation* to the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[15] and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting at its seventeenth session;

19. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[9] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its seventeenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;[16]

21. *Underlines* the importance of setting aside adequate time for all envisaged activities in the policy session, including for negotiations on policy options and possible actions, at the seventeenth session of the Commission, and in this regard notes the importance of having all required documents, including the Chair's draft negotiating document, made available for consideration prior to the beginning of the session;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[16] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A.